

ABSTRACT

A vehicle such as an ATV, snowmobile, or PWC has an onboard communications system that sends and/or receives wireless signals from an external communications system. The onboard communications system includes one or more of the following communications system components: a GPS system, an emergency distress system, a snowmobile orientation sensor, fuel tank fuel level/engine speed/battery sensors, a weather radio, a transceiver, an ignition control system, and a two-way voice communications system. Two or more of these communications system components may interact. For example, the emergency distress system selectively sends a distress signal that includes positional data from the GPS system. The external communications system may be the onboard communications system of a second vehicle, which allows a display on the second vehicle to display the relative locations of the two vehicles. A compact display may show information concerning the onboard communications system and operational characteristics of the recreational vehicle.